Town and Village of Cottage Grove

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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04/08/13



Chris P. Hughes
Chief of Police

Dear Community Stakeholder:

My name is Chris P. Hughes and I am the Chief of Police for the Town and Village of Cottage Grove. I write today asking for your support with the implementation of a police canine (K9) program for our community.

On March 26, 2013, the Cottage Grove Law Enforcement Committee granted permission for the Cottage Grove Police Department to begin gathering contributions in order to establish a multi-purpose police canine. The Law Enforcement Committee is comprised of local Town and Village elected officials and with their permission we have assembled a small group of committed community members to assist us in our fundraising efforts.

Why does Cottage Grove need a police K9? The Town and Village of Cottage Grove is a vibrant growing community consisting of over 10,000 residents and hosts a student population over 1,500. The traffic count surpasses 15,000 vehicles on any given day throughout the community. The police department consists of 12 sworn officers responding to over 3,000 calls for service annually while patrolling a radius of 36 square miles. As we all know our community like any other community is not immune from those who wish to threaten the quality of life. Cottage Grove wants to maintain a quality of life that attracts and retains residents and businesses; like you, to this great community. It is a department mission to continuously research and implement proactive programs that prevent crime, reduce the fear of crime and improve the quality of life for everyone in our community, residents and visitors alike.

A police K9 service dog has the extraordinary ability to smell, along with excellent agility, courage and determination, which are recognized both nationally and internationally. Studies have revealed a police K9 service dog's hearing is approximately 25 times better than its human partner, it sees well in low light and direct sunlight. The police K9 service dog's nose has approximately 220 million cells that register smells, compared to a human's 40 million. Furthermore, a multi-purpose K9 service dog will be used for drug detection, building searches, protection as well as searching for missing person(s) and suspect(s). The K9 service dog will reduce the time officers would normally spend on these functions as well as be utilized in a public relations capacity during civic functions and presentations.

I realize there are similar programs in Dane County communities but K9 service dog's are not like a "piece of equipment" which can be "loaned out" to a department. The K9 service dog must be part of the handler's family and must go where their hander's go. In addition, the courts have placed constraints on police in regard to the use of K9 units. Please take into consideration the geographic area these other county K9 programs are responsible for and the challenges in getting one of those K9 units to respond to our community.

In these days of fiscal constraints being placed on municipal budgets we are seeking financial support from community stakeholders. Our fundraising goal is \$60,000 in order to establish this worthwhile program. We have figures showing once in place the annual maintenance fees and recertification costs to sustain this program will only be \$5,400. The initial cost includes: the canine service dog itself, the training and certification for the canine and handler, the necessary care and equipment as well as the purchase of a specially outfitted police vehicle equipped specifically for K9 service patrol. Also, if there are any excess funds, these will be in an account to be used solely toward the annual maintenance and re-certification costs.

With your generous donation assisting us reaching our fundraising goal, you will receive a letter of acknowledgement for your personal or business' kind generosity showing your dedication and commitment to our community. This letter will serve as acknowledgement that your donation is tax deductible because Federal taxes under IRS Code at 26 U.S.C. §170 (c) (1) a gift to a local government entity or any political subdivision thereof is tax deductible. In addition, for those who contribute \$1,000 or more, we will work with you and/or your representative to assist in publicizing the goodwill effort you have demonstrated to our community.

You may make a donation directly to the Bank of Sun Prairie. An account for this has been established so please make checks payable to the account known as: <u>CGPD K9 Donation Fund.</u> You may also send your generous donation of check or money order to the police department directly at:

Cottage Grove Police Department ATTN: Police K9 Program 2560 Nora Road Cottage Grove, WI 53527

However, if you prefer to make your donation in another manner; please contact me, Chris P Hughes, at (608) 839-4652. I will be happy to assist you or your representative regarding your donation presentation to the department.

Your donation is providing an essential tool needed in your communities' local law enforcement toolbox. Thank you very much for your continued support and generosity!

With Kind Regards,

Chris P. Hughes Chief of Police

Cottage Grove Police Canine PROGRAM OVERVIEW

YOUR COTTAGE GROVE

Cottage Grove Police Department serves the Town and Village of Cottage Grove.

Town population 3,875

Village population 6,192

Total Population Served: 10,067

Town Square Mileage: 33.4

Village Square Mileage: 2.3

Total Square Mileage Patrolled: 35.7

Town Road Miles: 77.3

Village Road Miles: 32.24

Total Road Miles Patrolled: 109.54

Average traffic counts on any given day: STH 12/18 14,300

CTH BB 10,500

CTH N 9.500

Number of Cottage Grove Police Officers per 1,000 residents 1.2.

Geographically located between Madison, Milwaukee, and Janesville with the Interstate 94 running to the north and Interstate 90 running to the south. CTH N connecting both.

WHY A K9

- K9's extraordinary ability in smell, agility, courage and determination are recognized both nationally and internationally.
 - ✓ Track to find lost children and missing adults due to medical issues.
 - ✓ Perform public relations and appearances at various community functions
 - ✓ Highly visible deterrent to criminal activity.
 - ✓ Track and apprehend criminals for prosecution of their crimes
 - ✓ Locate illegal drugs
 - ✓ Reduce the hours needed to search buildings, to locate illegal drugs, and to find people in distress.
 - ✓ Provide income from recovered cash and property.
 - ✓ US Supreme Court decision Arizona vs. Gant reversed decades of case law in regard to an officer's ability to search after an arrest.
 - ✓ Court decisions dictate the time constraints a canine can be used for incidents such as during a traffic stop.

The K9's Nose Knows

- The cells in the nose that register smells are approximately 40 million for people and 220 million in dogs.
- Searches the air space around vehicles or objects
- A positive indication from a K9 provides an officer probable cause to search without a warrant.
- Not searching for drugs but odors
- Another tool in our law enforcement tool box to keep our communities safe and maintaining a quality of life expected by the members of our community.
- Increase in methamphetamine and heroin cases as well as an increase in the number of OWI arrests in which drugs have been consumed.

K9 PROGRAM COSTS

- Initial start up costs associated with the program could be set at \$60,000
 - Canine itself and canine and handler certification \$13,000
 - K9 vehicle patrol cage, temperature monitoring, door release, radio, graphics and installation \$6,900
 - ✓ Kennel, Outdoor Pen, Leashes, Collars \$2,000
 - ✓ Vehicle \$35,000
 - ✓ Protective Vest \$900
 - ✓ Training Equipment \$2,000
 - ✓ Licensing, professional membership dues \$200
 - Officer wages and benefits are covered in the department budget.

- Annual maintenance costs associated with this program could be set at \$5,400.
 - ✓ Annual Training and Recertification \$2,000
 - ✓ Animal Licensing and Professional Membership Dues \$200
 - ✓ Food \$600
 - ✓ Canine Care (Vet and grooming) \$2,000
 - ✓ Replace Training Equipment \$600
 - Officer wages and benefits for call outs and training included in the department budget.
 - ✓ Vehicle gas and maintenance covered by department budget.

FUNDING SOURCES

DONATIONS!

- Largest contributors are the community's businesses, civic organizations, churches and residents
- Foundations and Business Good Will Campaigns
- Food Donation
- Veterinarian Care
- Wisconsin Vest-A-Dog

WHERE IS THE K9 COMING FROM

Steinig Tal Police K9 Academy and Fox Valley Technical College Criminal Justice Division have teamed up to offer the highest quality K9 training program. Steinig Tal Police K9 Academy's staff has been training police dogs since 1978. It is the mission of Steinig Tal K9 Academy to promote excellence in K9 training and uphold the highest of standards.

- K9 handler course for dual purpose (narcotics detection, building searches, officer protection, searching for missing persons and suspects)
 - ✓ Bite and hold
 - √ K9 pre-trained by kennel
 - ✓ Kennel ensures proper fit of dog and handler
 - ✓ Kennel encourages bonding prior to training
 - ✓ 3 year health warranty
 - ✓ 24 hour support
- Drug detection certification in Marijuana, Cocaine, Methamphetamines, and Heroin
- Annual and Maintenance Certification / Training
 - ✓ 4 weeks initial training
 - √ 1 week certitification final exam
 - ✓ Maintenance training available twice a week, at kennel if desired by officer
 - ✓ Notified of new classes and legal training.



